

Date : November 2015

POP Biological Sampling Requirements

- 1) All Geographical Areas (except as specified)
- 2) Collect all length, weight, and sex information as instructed for each species.
- 3) Double label: Write basic info (trip number, specimen number, and date) on the outside of bag and on water-proof label inside bag.
- 4) Triple bag all samples to help with insulation and prevent leaking. Additionally, placing newspaper in between second and third bag can help with insulation. All perishable samples should be hard frozen (when possible) prior to shipment.

SWORDFISH

General: Anal spines from all female swordfish measuring ≥ 250 cm LJFL and all male swordfish ≥ 230 cm LJFL (for male swordfish, include a 2-3 inch cross section of gonad along with the spine to confirm sex ID).

Tag recapture (dead only): Collect anal spines from all sizes, sexes.

TUNAS

Yellowfin: Limited fin clips needed from the Atlantic and GOM (see protocols if provided a kit)

Bluefin: Year-round sampling. See protocols.

Bigeye and Albacore: No sampling until further notice.

Tag recapture (all species, dead only): No special sampling except in case of satellite or archival tags. Refer to your observer manual for specific instructions.

SHARKS

Makos: Fin clips from all longfin makos (and photos) and any questionable shortfin makos. Shortfin makos require additional sampling (see protocols).

Rare, deep water species: Collect whole specimens when size and shipment/transportation will not be an issue.

Tag recapture (all species, dead only): **Collect vertebral centra.**

BILLFISH

For dead, boated WHM, WHX, SPG, SPF, and SPX, photographs and skin patches will not be required **unless needed to verify species identification.**

Tag recapture (all species, dead only): No special sampling required.